

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 02073 211058Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-05 /016 W
-----069851 211100Z /21

R 181134Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3323
INFO AMEMBASSY BANJUL POUCH
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BISSAU POUCH
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PRAIA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 2073

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CGEN, SG
SUBJECT: SENEGALESE VISA PROBLEM

1. DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR MARCH 17, I BROUGHT UP THE SERIOUS SENEGALESE VISA PROBLEM FACED BY OFFICIAL AMERICANS IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. I WENT THROUGH A WHOLE LIST OF SPECIFIC HARDSHIPS CAUSED BY THEIR RESTRICTIVE POLICY COMPLICATED BY A CUMBERSOME AND UNRESPONSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS. AFTER HEARING ME OUT, SENGHOR SAID THAT THE OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN TO TIGHTEN CONTROLS ON THE SOVIETS, AND NOT TO UPSET THE AMERICANS. HE ASKED ME TO GIVE HIM A PIECE OF PAPER OUTLINING WHAT WE WOULD LIKE THE GOS TO DO. I LEFT AN AIDE MEMOIRE THAT HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR THE MEETING, AND FOLLOWED UP WITH A PERSONAL LETTER REQUESTING A RETURN TO THE STATUS QUO ANTE UNDER WHICH SENEGALESE EMBASSIES HAD THE AUTHORITY TO ISSUE MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS WITHOUT REFERENCE TO DAKAR.

2. COMMENT: IF PRESIDENT SENGHOR TAKES THE DECISIVE ACTION WE HAVE REQUESTED, THE RESULTS SHOULD BE APPARENT
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PAGE 02 DAKAR 02073 211058Z

SOON. WE HOPE HE DOESN'T ASK FOR EXTENSIVE STAFF STUDIES BEFORE MAKING A DECISION.
COHEN

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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